

The Honorable Michael K. Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a customer of DIRECTV, I am writing to urge you NOT to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I believe the merger will NOT increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me.

The combined company will be a monopoly. Not a competitor to cable operators, but a monopoly like Microsoft. Who else will we but satellite service from? They say that they will be able to offer me a substantial number of local TV channels via satellite in my market area, and that their new 'one country, one price' thing will be wonderful. My question is, what is the price? Will it be more than I am currently paying? Are the two companies currently raising prices to make it look like that didn't raise prices after the merger? My service just went from \$30.00 a month to \$37.00 a month. Is this a ploy to make things look better?

How come in all of the propaganda that the two companies are putting out, they refuse to mention how much cheaper it is going to be for consumers with all of the synergy creations by the merger. Because the consumer will not win in the end. All of the savings the companies find will go into the company, not the consumers.

They talk of broadband for everyone. Will I be able to get broadband for less than \$39.99 a month????

With all of the corporate scandals out there today, does it make sense to give another corporation more power?

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Steven Christy  
260 W. Penn Ave  
Wernersville, PA 19565